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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/009,579	03/22/2002	Lou Franciscus M. H. De Leij	Rijk-15(P52075US00	1723

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EXAMINER

QIAN, CELINE X

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1636

DATE MAILED: 02/25/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/009,579

Applicant(s)

DE LEIJ ET AL.

Examiner

Celine X Qian

Art Unit

1636

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claims 1-18 are pending in the application.

Election/Restrictions

Restriction is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 and 372.

This application contains the following inventions or groups of inventions which are not so linked as to form a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.499, applicant is required, in reply to this action, to elect a single invention to which the claims must be restricted.

Group I, claim(s) 1-10, drawn to a nucleic acid comprising a tissue specific promoter or a fragment of that promoter, that selectively expresses carcinoma cells, a vector comprising said nucleic acid and a host cell comprising said nucleic acid.

Group II, claim(s) 11, drawn to an experimental animal comprising a cell which comprises a nucleic acid that comprises a tissue specific promoter that selectively expresses carcinoma cells.

Group III, claim 12, drawn to a use of the nucleic acid comprising a tissue specific promoter that selectively expresses carcinoma cells.

Group IV, claims 13 and 14, drawn to a medicament comprising a nucleic acid that comprises a tissue specific promoter that selectively expresses carcinoma cells, and a use for said medicament for treating cancer.

Group V, claims 15, drawn to a method for the treatment of cancer comprising administering to a patient a nucleic acid comprises a tissue specific promoter that selectively expresses carcinoma cells.

Group VI, claims 16-18, drawn to a method for evaluating a possible treatment of disease comprising testing such treatment on a host cell which comprises the nucleic acid that comprises a tissue specific promoter that selectively expresses carcinoma cells.

PCT Rule 13.2 requires that unity of invention exists only when the shared same or corresponding technical feature is a contribution over the prior art. The inventions listed as Groups I-VI do not relate to a single general inventive concept because they lack the same or

Art Unit: 1636

corresponding special technical feature. The “special technical feature” of Group I is a tissue specific promoter or a fragment of that promoter, that selectively expresses carcinoma cells, which is shown by Baptist (WO98/1350, see abstract) to lack novelty or inventive step over the disclosed tumor specific promoter, and does not make a contribution over the prior art. As such, this technical feature cannot link the invention as a whole to form a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1.

The invention of the remaining groups each has a unique technical feature not shared by the other groups. The special technical feature of Group II is an animal comprising a cell that comprises a tumor specific promoter, which is not shared by the remaining groups. The special technical feature of Group III is use of the tumor specific promoter in any type of situation, which is not shared by the remaining groups. The special technical feature of Group IV is a medicament comprising the tumor specific promoter, which is not shared by the remaining groups. The special technical feature of Group V is a method for treating a cancer by gene therapy, which is not shared by the remaining group. The special technical feature of Group VI is a method for evaluating a possible treatment by using a cell comprising a tumor specific promoter, which is not shared by the remaining groups. Therefore, the unity of invention does not exist between the claims of Groups I-VI.

Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143).

Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the

Art Unit: 1636

currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a request under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(i).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Celine X Qian whose telephone number is 571-272-0777. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:30-6:00 M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Remy Yucel Ph.D. can be reached on 571-272-0781. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Celine Qian, Ph.D.

Anne-Marie Falk
ANNE-MARIE FALK, PH.D.
PRIMARY EXAMINER